

of Maternal Mortality Rate at the National Level for the last ten years are not available. The Maternal Mortality Rate estimated by National Family Health Survey (NFHS) and Simple Registration System of Registrar General of India (RGI) for different periods are given below:—

	92-93	1997	1998
RGI	NA	408	407
NFHS	424-	-	540*

According to the survey itself the difference between the two NFHS surveys is not statistically significant.

Major causes of Maternal Mortality are Hemorrhages, Anaemia, Puerperal Complications, Obstructed Labour, Abortions and Toxaemia of Pregnancy.

(e) Maternal Health is an integral part of the Reproductive and Child Health Programme which aims at bringing down the maternal mortality and morbidity. Under this programme various interventions focused on reducing maternal deaths are being implemented. These are essential obstetric care; Emergency Obstetric Care; provision for referral transport for pregnant women with complication of pregnancy through panchayats; provision of drugs and equipment at first referral units; provision of contractual staff like additional Health Workers, staff nurses, doctors and anesthetist. Funds are also being provided for schemes like 24 hours delivery services at selected primary health centres and community health centres; training of dais in 142 districts with safe delivery rate of less than 30 per cent and holding of health camps in 102 districts with adverse health indicators.

Purchases of Medicines for Medical Store Depots

3952. SHRI VUAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that DG Health has permitted purchases of 18 crores rupees worth of medicines for Medical Store Depots;
- (b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the

news-item published in Rashtriya Sahara dated 13th January, 2001 in this regard;

(c) whether his Ministry has referred the case to CBI for investigation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Surprise visits of CGHS dispensaries

3953. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he alongwith some senior officers made surprise visits at some CGHS dispensaries in the Capital, recently;

(b) if so, the details of deficiencies noticed by the visiting teams in the functioning of those dispensaries;

(c) whether the comments of beneficiaries were also sought;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the surprise visits would be conducted at other CGHS dispensaries also to know the comments of the beneficiaries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the deficiencies noticed are as under:

(i) Entries in the complaint register are not being made regularly.

(ii) Delay in supply of local purchase medicines are taking place.

(iii) Timings of distribution of Local Purchase medicines need to be clearly indicated.

(iv) Need for special courtesy to the senior citizens by way of